

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

We claim:

- 1 1. A method of filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities  
2 comprising:  
3 receiving data concerning multiple items having a price-based value associated  
4 with at least one item; and  
5 removing irregular data concerning an irregular item having a price-based value  
6 greater than a predetermined price-based value from a representation of the data.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein removing the irregular data concerning the  
2 irregular item having a price-based value greater than the predetermined price-based  
3 value comprises setting an irregular item flag for the irregular item having a price-based  
4 value greater than the predetermined price-based value; and  
5 using only items having an irregular item flag that is not set for data computations  
6 and reports.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the irregular item flag of each item having an  
2 irregular item flag set may be unset if the item is found to be legitimate.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein removing the irregular data concerning the  
2 irregular item having a price-based value greater than the predetermined price-based  
3 value comprises deleting the irregular data from data computations and reports.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the irregular item has a bid that is later found to  
2 be not genuine.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the irregular item is later found to be not in  
2 existence.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the data is generated after predetermined time  
2 intervals and includes information from auctions ending during the predetermined time  
3 intervals.

1 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a finance report based on  
2 the representation of the data.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a category summary report  
2 based on the representation of the data.

1 10. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a daily statistics report  
2 based on the representation of the data.

1 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising converting the price-based values of  
2 the multiple items from a first currency to a second currency and choosing the  
3 predetermined price-based value from a plurality of predetermined price-based values  
4 based on the first currency.

1 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the plurality of predetermined price-based values  
2 are in a table format.

1 13. The method of claim 1 further comprising choosing the predetermined price-  
2 based value from a plurality of predetermined price-based value based on a category in  
3 which the irregular item was auctioned within the network-based auction facility.

1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the plurality of predetermined price-based values  
2 are in a table format.

1 15. The method of claim 1 wherein the price-based value comprises a selling price of  
2 the irregular item.

1 16. The method of claim 1 wherein the price-based value comprises a fee set by a  
2 network-based auction facility based on the selling price of the irregular item.

1 17. The method of claim 1 further comprising choosing the predetermined price based  
2 on auction type.

1 18. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing a bidder identification  
2 associated with the irregular item in an irregular user database; and  
3 disabling use of the network-based auction facility by a user associated with the  
4 bidder identification in the irregular user database.

1 19. The method of claim 18 further comprising investigating the bidder identification  
2 in the irregular user database and removing the bidder identification from the irregular  
3 user database if the price-based value associated with the bidder identification is  
4 legitimate.

1 20. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing a seller identification associated  
2 with the irregular item in an irregular user database; and  
3 disabling use of the network-based auction facility by a user associated with the  
4 seller identification in the irregular user database.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising investigating the seller identification  
2 in the irregular user database and removing seller identifications from the irregular user  
3 database if the price-based value associated with the seller identification is legitimate.

1 22. A computer readable storage medium containing executable computer program  
2 instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method  
3 for filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities, said method  
4 comprising:

5 receiving data concerning multiple items having a price-based value associated  
6 with at least one item; and

7 removing suspect data concerning a suspect item having a price-based value  
8 greater than a predetermined price-based value from a representation of the data.

1 23. A system for filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities  
2 comprising:

3 means for receiving data concerning multiple items having a price-based value  
4 associated with at least one item; and

5 means for removing suspect data concerning a suspect item having a price-based  
6 value greater than a predetermined price-based value from a representation of the data.

1 24. A system for filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities  
2 comprising:

3 a database storing data concerning multiple items having a price-based value  
4 associated with at least one item;

5 a database engine server comprising an irregular activity monitoring system  
6 wherein the irregular activity monitoring system removes irregular data concerning an

7 irregular item having a price-based value greater than a predetermined price-based value  
8 from a representation of the data.

1 25. The system of claim 24 wherein the irregular activity monitoring system sets an  
2 irregular flag for the irregular item having a price-based value greater than a  
3 predetermined price-based value and only items having an irregular item flag that is not  
4 set are used for data computations and reports.

1 26. The system of claim 25 wherein the irregular flag may be unset.

1 27. The system of claim 24 wherein the database stores a look-up table storing  
2 currency conversion rates and a look-up table storing predetermined price-based values  
3 based on auction categories.

1 28. A method of filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities  
2 comprising:

3 receiving data concerning multiple items having a price-based value associated  
4 with at least one item; and

5 removing suspect data concerning a suspect item having a price-based value  
6 greater than a predetermined price-based value from a representation of the data.

1 29. The method of claim 28 wherein removing the suspect data concerning the  
2 suspect item having a price-based value greater than the predetermined price-based value  
3 comprises setting a suspect item flag for the suspect item having a price-based value  
4 greater than the predetermined price-based value; and

5 using only items having a suspect item flag that is not set for data computations  
6 and reports.

1 30. The method of claim 29 wherein the suspect item flag of each item having a  
2 suspect item flag set may be unset if the item is found to be legitimate.

1 31. The method of claim 28 wherein removing the suspect data concerning the  
2 suspect item having a price-based value greater than the predetermined price-based value  
3 comprises deleting the suspect data from data computations and reports.

1 32. The method of claim 28 wherein the suspect item has a bid that is later found not  
2 to be genuine.

1 33. The method of claim 28 wherein the suspect item is later found not to be in  
2 existence.

1 34. The method of claim 28 wherein the data is generated after predetermined time  
2 intervals and includes information from auctions ending during the predetermined time  
3 intervals.

1 35. The method of claim 28 further comprising generating a finance report based on  
2 the representation of the data.

1 36. The method of claim 28 further comprising generating a category summary report  
2 based on the representation of the data.

1 37. The method of claim 28 further comprising generating a daily statistics report  
2 based on the representation of the data.

1 38. The method of claim 28 further comprising converting the price-based values of  
2 the multiple items from a first currency to a second currency and choosing the  
3 predetermined price-based value from a plurality of predetermined price-based values  
4 based on the first currency.

1 39. The method of claim 38 wherein the plurality of predetermined price-based values  
2 are in a table format.

1 40. The method of claim 28 further comprising choosing the predetermined price-  
2 based value from a plurality of predetermined price-based value based on a category in  
3 which the suspect item was auctioned within the network-based auction facility.

1 41. The method of claim 40 wherein the plurality of predetermined price-based values  
2 are in a table format.

1 42. The method of claim 28 wherein the price-based value comprises a selling price  
2 of the suspect item.

1 43. The method of claim 28 wherein the price-based value comprises a fee set by a  
2 network-based auction facility based on the selling price of the suspect item.

1 44. The method of claim 28 further comprising choosing the predetermined price  
2 based on auction type.

1 45. The method of claim 28 further comprising storing a bidder identification  
2 associated with the suspect item in a suspect user database; and

3            disabling use of the network-based auction facility by a user associated with the  
4 bidder identification in the suspect user database.

1    46.    The method of claim 45 further comprising investigating the bidder identification  
2 in the suspect user database and removing the bidder identification from the suspect user  
3 database if the price-based value associated with the bidder identification is legitimate.

1    47.    The method of claim 28 further comprising storing a seller identification  
2 associated with the suspect item in a suspect user database; and  
3            disabling use of the network-based auction facility by a user associated with the  
4 seller identification in the suspect user database.

1    48.    The method of claim 47 further comprising investigating the seller identification  
2 in the suspect user database and removing seller identifications from the suspect user  
3 database if the price-based value associated with the seller identification is legitimate.

1    49.    A computer readable storage medium containing executable computer program  
2 instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method  
3 for filtering out suspect items in reports in network-based auction facilities, said method  
4 comprising:

5            receiving data including at least one item having a price-based value associated  
6 with each item; and

7            removing all items having a price-based value greater than a predetermined price-  
8 based value from a representation of the data.

1    50.    A system for filtering out suspect items in reports in network-based auction  
2 facilities comprising:



3 means for receiving data including at least one item having a price-based value  
4 associated with each item; and

5 means for removing all items having a price-based value greater than a  
6 predetermined price-based value from a representation of the data.

1 51. A system for filtering out item data in a report in network-based auction facilities  
2 comprising:

3 a database storing data concerning multiple items having a price-based value  
4 associated with at least one item;

5 a database engine server comprising an irregular activity monitoring system  
6 wherein the irregular activity monitoring system removes suspect data concerning a  
7 suspect item having a price-based value greater than a predetermined price-based value  
8 from a representation of the data.

1 52. The system of claim 51 wherein the irregular activity monitoring system sets a  
2 suspect flag for the suspect item having a price-based value greater than a predetermined  
3 price-based value and only items having a suspect item flag that is not set are used for  
4 data computations and reports.

1 53. The system of claim 52 wherein the suspect flag may be unset.

1 54. The system of claim 51 wherein the database stores a look-up table storing  
2 currency conversion rates and a look-up table storing predetermined price-based values  
3 based on auction categories.